



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Winners Announced in Creative Writing Competition**

*Bay Area High School Students Win Scholarship Prizes*

**San Francisco, CA** – October 24, 2006 – The Global Film Initiative today announced the First, Second and Third Prize Winners in the Bay Area Global Lens Creative Writing Competition. The Competition was open to high school students who attended screenings of Global Lens films in Oakland, San Francisco, San Jose and San Rafael during September. Entries were judged for critical thinking, imagination and creative writing.

**Prizes for High School winners** First and Second Place winners were selected by teachers and administrators at each participating high school. First Place winners received a cash prize of \$100, and their entries were submitted to the Bay Area-wide competition. Second Place winners received a cash prize of \$50.

**Scholarship Prizes for Bay Area winners** A panel of distinguished educators and civic leaders judged the top finishers from all participating high schools for the Bay Area-wide Competition. First, Second and Third Prizes carry Scholarship Awards in the amounts of \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000, courtesy of a grant by San Francisco-based **Triton Holdings**.

### **Bay Area Winners announced today:**

First Prize: **Notre Dame High School** in **San Jose** – Thientam Nguyen.

Second Prize: **Life Academy High School** in **Oakland** – Alejandra Mendoza.

Third Prize: **Mission High School** in **San Francisco** – Debbie Huang.

"The judges were impressed by the talent and imagination these students brought to a challenging assignment. We are pleased to reward their efforts and to encourage them in their studies," noted Susan Weeks Coulter, Chair of The Global Film Initiative. "They embraced the writing assignment with enthusiasm and skill. We wish them all the best as they continue their education."

The winning entries will be published on the Bay Area website *The Evening Class* and the Canadian website *Twitich*; both sites are committed to global cinema and the development of film writing among young people.

### **The Global Film Initiative**

The Global Film Initiative is a non-traditional distributor specializing in independent films from the developing world. The Global Film Initiative was created to promote cross-cultural understanding through the universal language of cinema during a time of great change throughout the world. The Global Film Initiative offers grants each year to filmmakers and brings outstanding films to U.S. audiences through a 16-18 city theatrical release, *Global Lens*. *Global Lens* is supplemented by an educational outreach program to high school students. The Global Film Initiative is a 501(c)3 organization based in New York City. See [www.globalfilm.org](http://www.globalfilm.org) for more information.

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